

THE SALT LAKE HERALD.

TEXAS STORM VICTIMS MAY NUMBER 10,000

SCENES OF DISTRESS
IN DEMOLISHED CITY

Corpses Lie on Every Hand, Survivors Hurt and
Suffering--Buildings Swept Out of Existence.

Food and Water Are Scarce--One Large Section of the
City Has Disappeared Entirely.

GALVESTON APPEALS TO PRESIDENT
AND NATION FOR AID IN HER DISTRESS

Washington, Sept. 10.—The following telegrams passed between the
White House and Texas today:

"Houston, Tex., Sept. 10.

"I have been deputized by the mayor and citizens' committee of
Galveston to inform you that the city of Galveston is in ruins, and cer-
tainly many hundreds, if not thousands, are dead. The tragedy is one
of the most frightful in recent times.

Help must be given by the state and nation or the suffering will be
appalling.

"Food, clothing and money will be needed at once.

"The whole south side of the city for three blocks in front of the
gulf is swept clear of every building; the whole wharf front is a wreck
and but few houses in the city are really habitable.

"The water supply is cut off and the food stock is damaged by salt
water.

"All bridges are washed away and stranded steamers litter the bay.

"When I left this morning the search for bodies had begun. Corpses
were everywhere.

"The tempest blew eighty-four miles an hour, and then carried gov-
ernment instruments away; at the same time the waters of the gulf
were over the whole city, having risen twelve feet.

"Water has now subsided, and the survivors are left helpless among
the wreckage, cut off from the world except by boat.

(Signed) "RICHARD SPILLANE,"

"Washington, Sept. 10.

"J. D. Sayers, Governor of Texas:

"The reports of the great calamity which has befallen Galveston
and other points on the coast of Texas, excite my profound sympathy
for the sufferers, as they will stir the hearts of the whole country.

"Whatever help it is possible to give shall be gladly extended.

"Have directed the secretary of war to supply rations and tents
upon your request.

"A copy of the above telegram was sent to the mayor of Galveston,
as well as to Governor Sayers.

"The President, Washington:

"Very many thanks for your telegram. Your action will be greatly
appreciated and gratefully remembered by the people of Texas.

"I have this day requested the secretary of war to forward rations
and tents to Galveston.

(Signed) "JOSEPH D. SAYRES,"

"Governor of Texas.

"Austin, Tex., Sept. 10.

"Houston, Tex., Sept. 10.—Richard

Spillane, a well known Galveston news-
paper man and day correspondent of
the Associated Press in that city, who
reached Houston today after a terrible
experience, gives the following account
of the disaster at Galveston:

"One of the most awful tragedies of
modern times has visited Galveston.
The city is in ruins, and the dead will
probably number 1,000. I am just from
the city, having been commissioned by
the mayor and citizens' committee to
get in touch with the outside world and
appeal for help. Houston was the near-
est point at which working telegraph
instruments could be found, the wires,
as well as nearly all the buildings be-
tween here and the Gulf of Mexico be-
ing wrecked.

"When I left Galveston shortly be-
fore noon yesterday the people were
panicking for the prompt burial of the
dead, distribution of food and all nec-
essary work after a period of disaster.

"The wreck of Galveston was brought
about by a tempest so terrible that no
words can adequately describe its in-
tensity, and by a flood which turned the
city into a raging sea. The water
then bore down upon the city, and
the wind was so fierce that the rain cut
like a knife.

"The storm began about 2 o'clock
Saturday morning. Previous to that
the Gulf and the city were very high. The
wind at first came from the north and
was in direct opposition to the force
from the Gulf. While the storm in the
Gulf piled the water upon the beach
side of the city, the north wind piled
the water from the bay onto the bay
part of the city.

"About noon it became evident that
the city was going to be visited with
disaster. Hundreds of residences along
the beach front were hurriedly aban-
doned, the families fleeing to dwellings
in higher portions of the city. Every
home was opened to the refugees, black
or white. The wind was rising con-
stantly and rain fell in torrents. The
wind was so fierce that the rain cut
like a knife.

"The whole of the business front for
three blocks in from the gulf was
stripped of every vestige of habitation,
the dwellings, establishments and
every structure having been either car-
ried out to sea or its ruins piled in a
pyramid far into the town, according
to the vagaries of the wind.

"The first hurried glance over the
city showed that the largest structures,
crowded to the most substantially
built, suffered most.

"The Orphans' home, Twenty-first
and Avenue M, fell like a house of
cards. How many dead children and
refugees are in the ruins could not be
ascertained.

"Of the sick in St. Mary's infirmary,
together with the attendants, only eight
are understood to have been saved.

"The Old Women's home on Rosen-

burg street, suffered most.

"Such a night of agony has seldom
been equaled. Without apparent reason
the waters began to subside at 1:45
a. m. Within two minutes they had
gone down two feet and before day-
light the streets were practically freed

of the flood waters. In the meantime
the wind veered to the southeast.

"Buildings Are All Damaged.

"Very few, if any, buildings escaped
injury. There is hardly a habitable dry
house in the city.

"When the people who had escaped
death went out at daylight to view the
work of the tempest and the floods they
saw the most horrible sight imagin-
able. In the three blocks from the
beach to Avenue P in Tremont street I
saw eight bodies. Four corpses were
in one yard.

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NATION AIDS
THE SUFFERERS

War Department Orders
Tents and Supplies Sent.

CITIES CONTRIBUTE
FUNDS FOR RELIEF

Widespread Steps Are Taken to
Alleviate Distress.

Washington, Sept. 10.—Governor Say-
ers has applied to the war
department for 10,000 tents and 50,000
rations for immediate use for the suf-
ferers from Saturday's storm. Acting
Secretary Mikeljohn issued an order
granting the request.

The tents will be sent from San An-
tonio and Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

It is expected that the large portion
of the rations can be procured at San
Antonio. If not they will be sent from
Kansas City.

The officers of the national govern-
ment have taken steps to render all
possible aid and assistance to the flood
sufferers of Texas. The president to-
day sent telegrams of sympathy to the
governor of the state and to the mayor
of Galveston and promised to render
all possible relief.

Adjutant General Corbin also tele-
graphed instructions to General McKib-
bin, commanding the department of
Texas at San Antonio, to proceed to
Galveston and investigate the character
and extent of the damage caused by
the hurricane and to report to the sec-
retary of war what steps are necessary
to alleviate the sufferings of the people
and improve the situation.

In view of the reported difficulties in
reaching Galveston owing to the con-
dition of railways, it is expected that
General McKibbin will scarcely be able
to report to the war department upon
the distress inside of twenty-four
hours, unless he avails himself of re-
ports coming to hand.

Battery O, First artillery, which gar-
risoned Fort San Jacinto, was com-
manded by Captain William Rafferty.

Acting Secretary of the Treasury
Spaulding has ordered two revenue cut-
ters, one at Norfolk and one at Wil-
mington, N. C., to proceed at once to
Mobile, Ala., and there await orders.

It is expected that they will be needed
in supplying food and tents to the
storm sufferers.

Dallas, Tex., Sept. 10.—Two mass
meetings were held here today and
many thousands of dollars were sub-
scribed for the relief of the Texas gulf

sufferers.

Dallas, Tex., Sept. 10.—Houston and Texas Central railroad officials
at noon received bulletins from their general offices in Houston that the
loss of life will reach 3,000 in Galveston.

THE MISSOURI, KANSAS & TEXAS RELIEF FORCES NEAR
GALVESTON AND ALONG THE COAST TELEGRAPHED AT
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FIRST INSTALLMENT OF
THE NAMES OF THE DEAD

Entire Families Are Drowned in Their Homes or
See Relatives Lose Their Lives.

List Includes Prominent Men in the City, Death Gathering
in Rich and Poor.

LOSS OF LIFE IS DECLARED TO BE
NOT LESS THAN 1,500, PERHAPS 10,000

Chicago, Sept. 10.—The following statement of the situation at Gal-
veston and along the coast was received tonight:

"Dallas, Tex., Sept. 10

"To Charles S. Diehl, G. M., the Associated Press, Chicago:

"From the latest reports, which are considered reliable, the disaster
at Galveston and along the coast has not been exaggerated. The waters
of the gulf and bay met, covering the island to a depth of six to
twelve feet. During this sudden flood a most terrible storm was rag-
ing, the wind blowing about eighty miles an hour.

"Many of the dead have been uncovered; others are still under the
debris; others carried out to sea.

"It is not possible to give at this time a reliable report as to the num-
ber of deaths.

"FROM ESTIMATES MADE BY RELIABLE PERSONS WHO
HAVE JUST COME FROM GALVESTON, IT IS BELIEVED THAT
NO LESS THAN 1,500 AND POSSIBLY AS MANY AS 5,000 PEOP-
LE WERE DROWNED.

"OF COURSE, THE WOUNDED ARE NUMEROUS.

"THE DAMAGE TO PROPERTY IS MOST SHOCKING.

"SOME OF THE BEST PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PRIVATE
ESTABLISHMENTS WERE WRECKED. THOUSANDS OF
HOMES WERE SWEEPED ENTIRELY AWAY.

"IT IS QUITE SAFE TO SET THIS DOWN AS ONE OF THE
GREATEST DISASTERS THAT HAS EVER VISITED THE
UNITED STATES. THE LOSS OF PROPERTY IS IRREPARA-
BLE. THE LOSS OF LIFE IS APPALLING.

(Signed) G. B. DEALY, Manager Dallas News."

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